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ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
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FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3266  
INFO RUEHZG/NATO EU COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBK/AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 2758  
RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 2087  
RUEHLM/AMEMBASSY COLOMBO 0505  
RUEHKA/AMEMBASSY DHAKA 0226  
RUEHNE/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 0667  
RUEHKO/AMEMBASSY TOKYO 1838  
RUEHCI/AMCONSUL KOLKATA 0002  
RUEHBI/AMCONSUL MUMBAI 0048  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 1442  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 000560

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/14/2019

TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [PHUM](#) [PREF](#) [PTER](#) [MASS](#) [SOCI](#) [EAID](#) [NL](#)

SUBJECT: NETHERLANDS: PUSHING SRI LANKA ON FREEDOM OF  
MOVEMENT

REF: A. SECSTATE 92641  
[B. THE HAGUE](#) 313

Classified By: PolEcon Counselor Andrew C. Mann for reasons 1.5(b,d)

[¶1.](#) (C) The Dutch support U.S. efforts to encourage the GSL to permit the free movement of IDPs. On September 14, post delivered ref A points to MFA Senior Policy Officer Andrea Nederlof, in the Department for Asia and Oceania. Nederlof responded that the Dutch ambassador in Colombo has been "very active" in engaging the GSL and has led EU joint efforts on human rights, particularly on the issue of freedom of speech.

The Dutch position is to encourage the GSL to permit IDPs to return, to accept demining aid, and to address human rights violations.

[¶2.](#) (C) In terms of aid, the Dutch recently approved one million euros for the Institute of Migration (IOM) for Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR). At the same time, due to rising income levels in Sri Lanka, the GONL is phasing out Sri Lanka as a "partner country" in 2010 (ref B).

[¶3.](#) (C) At a multilateral level, Nederlof indicated the EU appears to support action against Sri Lanka, although it will not take up the issue at the September 14-15 GAERC meeting but rather in October after the completion of a report on limiting trade preferences for Sri Lanka. The Dutch support the idea of EU guidelines on non-humanitarian aid that require the GSL to address IDP return and human rights issues. In New York, Minister for Development Cooperation Koenders will meet with UN U/SYG Holmes regarding Sri Lanka during the UNGA, September 21-24.

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